

## April 28 Is Ridgewood Park Cleanup Day!

Spring is just around the corner in Huber Ridge! Ridgewood Park Cleanup Day—in conjunction with Boy Scout Troop 560, Keep Franklin County Beautiful, and the Sierra Club—will be April 28, 2007. We will start working at 9:00 a.m. The Huber Ridge Area Association will provide a picnic lunch. Work will continue into the afternoon.

There will be a table as you come in to register your time worked (for statistics) and to get information about both the HRAA and the Sierra Club.

Projects planned are

- ⊗ continue painting the shelter
- ⊗ weed and mulch the playground area
- ⊗ mulch the path in the woods and around trees, etc.
- ⊗ pick up litter
- ⊗ eliminate poison ivy around the perimeter of the woods

Dress for the weather and the tasks. Bring painting and gardening equipment if you can. See the HRAA website ([huberridge.org](http://huberridge.org)) for a more complete list of projects.

Call Lori Mann at 882-3795 if you have questions, want to donate food or supplies, or will volunteer to work.

—Lori Mann, Ridgewood Park Cleanup Day Coordinator



*One of the projects planned is to continue painting the Ridgewood Park shelter.*

## Ohio American Water and You

First, I want to thank everyone who was involved in the opposition to OAW's rate increase. Every letter, signature, phone call, and person who attended the public forum made a difference. There was no small contribution. I have been told on several occasions by the parties involved with this rate increase that the Huber Ridge Area Association and the community have had a major impact on the rate increase. The HRAA and the community have accomplished more during this rate increase than all of the lawyers hired to oppose the last three increases combined.

On January 10, 2007, a stipulation agreement was made. On March 7, 2007, the PUCO issued an opinion and order approving and granting the stipulation. This agreement is a 77-page report. I will try to summarize it.

### Abeyance Fund

OAW will set aside \$50,000 as an assurance that it will meet 5 commitment categories consisting of

1) unaccounted-for water: OAW will commit to rendering unaccounted-for water at least 15 percent on the following

schedule—Huber Ridge by June 30, 2008.

2) meter-reading, change-out program: OAW will complete its encoder meter installation program in the Franklin County district no later than the end of 2008.

3) valve maintenance, operation

4) tank inspections, storage studies, and replacements

5) hydrant flushing and painting

Huber Ridge Discoloration Program

OAW agrees to address the discoloration issue in Huber

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Ridge with additional steps. The parties agree that the objective of the additional steps is to eliminate discoloration caused by water chemistry in the Company's system, including its distribution system (excluding minor discoloration which would occur at the time of the semiannual flushings and which might occur in the event large quantities of water are used for firefighting or similar activities). There are 4 pages of steps and deadlines OAW will take to clear up the discoloration issue in the Huber Ridge water plant. OAW shall also submit quarterly reports to the PUCO staff, the OCC, and the Ohio EPA. They must conduct sampling of water weekly.

## Rates and Charges for Franklin County

### Domestic Service

Water customer charge for 5/8-inch meter is \$9.41 a month. The water consumption charge for basic water service is \$3.2074 per CCF for the first 13.33 CCF and \$1.9686 per CCF over 13.33 CCF. The reverse osmosis surcharge is \$1.3250 per CCF.

### General Sewer Domestic Service

Sewer consumption charge for the first 13.33 CCF is \$6.0173 per CCF.

### Summer/Winter Sewer Usage Formula

The volume of sewer use during the summer period months (May, June, July, August, September) shall be considered to be equal to the lesser of the winter period (December, January, February) average usage or actual usage. In the summer period, the lesser of the winter period average usage or actual usage as defined will be billed at the tariff rates for general sewer service. In the non-summer period, sewer customers will be billed for sewer service based on actual and/or estimated water meter registration and using the general sewer service tariff.

This allows residents to wash cars, water vegetation, water yards during May through September and only pay for the water usage above the winter usage. For example, if you average 5 CCF per month and you use 8 CCF in the summer,

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you will pay for 8 CCF of water and will pay only for 5 CCF for sewage. That would only increase your bill \$9.63 for 3 CCF of usage. Three CCF is a lot of water. Each CCF equals 748 gallons of water; 3 CCF equals 2,244 gallons of water.

OAW states the agreement equates to a 9.95 percent increase over the rates in effect since February 25, 2005. Please remember OAW applied for a rate increase back in March 2006 for an increase of 19.1 percent overall increase and a 21 percent increase for the Huber Ridge treatment plant customers. OAW has also agreed to aggressively clean up the Huber Ridge treatment plant water, paint/repair/replace 20 percent of the fire hydrants each year, implement a summer/winter rate, and have no rate increase until red water is under control. If you want to read the details of this 77-page document and the PUCO opinion and order, log onto [huberridge.org](http://huberridge.org).

Every resident will receive a letter from OAW stating the increase and when it will go into effect.

The OAW has started implementing steps to clean the water up. On February 21, 2007, I was invited to a meeting with 3 OAW reps, the OCC, the PUCO, and the Ohio EPA. The purpose was to introduce OAW's "Huber Ridge Water Treatment Plant and Water Distribution System Monitoring Plan Proposal." To sum up the 5-page proposal, the operational goal of the Huber Ridge water treatment plant is to produce a finished water that is stable with the lowest possible iron and manganese concentration. The ongoing goal is to achieve the lowest concentrations of iron and manganese below the SMCL. Additionally, the delivered water should have no "red water" coloring.

OAW has proposed 6 sampling sites to check progress:

- 1) Huber Ridge water treatment plant sample tap
- 2) 3350 Vickers Drive
- 3) 3680 Bogota Drive
- 4) 6208 Carnation Drive (Sunbury Woods)
- 5) 5900 Cairo Road
- 6) 3788 Caracas Drive

At this time, dedicated sampling taps are planned. This removes the influence of private property plumbing and services lines. These samples will be taken weekly.

It is proposed that the water distribution pipe samples be taken from the same streets as the above site locations. As part of the plan, a monthly progress report will be generated by the tenth day of the following month and will be distributed as a working document to the PUCO, the OCC, and the Ohio EPA. This report will present

- 1) accomplishments of the previous month
- 2) summary of the data
- 3) summary of previous month's complaints
- 4) observations, comments, and recommendations on the month's findings
- 5) planned activities for the next month

During the implementation period of the proposed plan, OAW will be implementing unidirectional flushing of the distribution system. This tentative schedule is the weeks of March 26, June 25, and October 15. These dates are subject to weather conditions, water demand, and other variables that may require date adjustments. Notification will be provided to all parties. Please check our website, [huberridge.org](http://huberridge.org), for details.

OAW states: During these processes, you may/will receive temporary "red water." OAW has verified that some distribution valves have been found closed and is in the process of opening and/or replacing them.

OAW asks you to help. To truly clean up the "red water," OAW needs to know what is going on. **So please call 1-800-673-5999 if you experience water quality problems.** Be warned you will be asked a series of questions by the operator and by the representative who comes out to check. These questions are necessary information that is needed to help identify the source of the problem.

The PUCO opinion and order adopts the stipulation and agreement but recognizes quality issues in the Huber Ridge Area. The PUCO recognized the opposition and turnout at our public hearing and put OAW on notice. Compliance is satisfactory when each month, the turbidity level of at least 95 percent of the samples taken from the distribution system will be equal to one less than the average NTU or equal to or less than the average NTUs at the control site, whichever is greater for 12 months. See [huberridge.org](http://huberridge.org) for details.

This is a lot of information to read and absorb. Many of you may be disappointed while reading this article. Consider that the two previous rate increases went unopposed, and OAW received pretty much what it asked for. I received notification of this increase, and we kept the community informed of the increase and how to oppose this increase. Huber Ridge united as a community for a common cause and waged a civil but stern opposition. We reduced this increase by over 50 percent and received a lot of concessions. It is not the goal of 0 percent that we set out for, but we made a huge impact. Consider what would have happened if we did



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nothing as the 2 previous increases went through. We would still have "red water," a 21 percent rate increase, no winter/summer rates, etc.

This is a great example of uniting a community. **Great communications develop great communities.** If we can unite for OAW opposition, could we not unite for other community efforts? Ridgewood Park Cleanup, beautification of our community, etc.?

—Jim Welch, President

## Spring Neighborhood Spruce Up

Along with the scheduled park cleanup this year, the HRAA is interested in repairing and painting the signs at both the 161 entrance and the Westerville Road entrance as well as the kiosks throughout the neighborhood. Additionally, we would like to do some relandscaping at the two large signs so we are seeking some help—particularly if you have some interest, skills, or business affiliations that would lend themselves to this kind of project. Please contact anyone on the Executive Committee (see the list on the bottom of page 1) if you'd like to be involved in either a large or a small way!

—Carolyn Cordray, Welcome Committee Coordinator

## Block Watch Street Representatives

Area	Street	House	Name(s)	Phone
A	Arnett Ct.	3361	Bill and Gloria Cochenour	882-2639
	Dahlgreen Dr.	3525	Mindy March	523-3184
	Dempsey Rd. (3352-3547)	3473	Era McMahon	891-5312
	Hunt Club Rd., N. and W.	3378	Emily Patterson	899-3742
B	Batavia Rd.	6101	Debb Candow	728-6817
	Paris Bl., N.	6084	Joellen Lugin	882-0030
C	Canberra Ct.	3515	Edwin England	794-3049
	Dakar Rd., E.	5903	George King	
	Rangoon Dr.	3510	Lori Mann	882-3795
D	Saigon Dr.	3505	Jim and Amber Chill	882-4220
	Bangasi Rd.	5971	Paul and Robin Wagner	392-0091
	Bangasi Rd.	5943	Melanie Kopacsi	
	Cairo Rd.	5911	Julie Hedrick	890-4045
	Karikal Dr.	3582	Janet Brown	882-8684
	Karikal Dr.	3581	Merry Neff	804-7426
	Makassar Dr.	3614	Pam Clegg	891-9176
	Manila Dr. (3477-3551)	3480	Matt and Jackie Shumaker	895-8184
	Buenos Aires North of Paris	5788	Lynn Hays	599-3647
	Caracas Dr.	3688	Barbara Muldrew	818-2712
E	Caracas Dr.	3734	Eric and Carolyn Cordray	882-1310
	Varadero Dr.	5865	Tony Miller	890-1402
	Acapulco Pl.	5455	Lou Dunbar	882-0376
F	Buenos Aires South of Paris	5643	Ron Szymkowiak	898-7754
	Copenhagen Dr.	5520	Bill and June Riggs	890-6070
	Madrid Dr.	5625	Ralph and Judy Barrell	882-5298
	Madrid Dr.	3599	Kathy Ridgway	899-9690
	Oslo Dr.	5561	Sharon Ricker*	891-1881
	Stockholm Rd.	3515	Betsy Briggs	203-5404
	Bogota Dr.	3706	Nicholas Halliwell*	946-7615
G	Managua Dr.	3668	Andrea Wei	890-8187
	Managua Dr.	3705	Frances Corkrean	890-1825
	Mexico Ave.	3661	Michelle Baum	895-9601
	Santiago Dr.	3686	Daisy Kirkendall	948-0635

\* Area Representative

**If your street is not listed, we need you! E-mail [blockwatch@huberridge.org](mailto:blockwatch@huberridge.org) or call 891-9176.**

## First Annual Block Watch Training Session a Success

The first annual Block Watch training session was held January 30, 2007, at the new Blendon Township Police Station. What made it a success? In addition to all the details involved

with scheduling an event, the real success came from the expertise and creativity of 25-year-veteran Sgt. Branch Wayt combined with the faithful and anxious-to-learn attendees of the HRAA Block Watch program. Twenty residents experienced and learned the following:

● **Attitude**—Neighborhood watch results from what we

want in the neighborhood; it needs to be a domino effect; get other neighbors involved. We need to take pride in our neighborhood; clean it up.

- 8 **Look, Listen, and Report**—without being a vigilante—are basic tenets of the program.
- 8 **Call police** no matter what:—911 for emergencies, 889-9494 for the dispatcher.
- 8 **Know who your neighbors are**—their habits, who belongs and who doesn't; look out for your neighbors.
- 8 **Home security starts at home.** Better security costs money. Look at your house from the sidewalk to see what others see. Look at lighting—is it bright enough for others to see entryways? Look at bushes—can anyone hide behind your bushes? Make sure house numbers are visible on houses; are they large enough to be easily seen? Check entryways for secure locks. Don't leave property outside. Write serial numbers or other identification on your property. If it is stolen and you cannot prove it is yours, then it will not be returned to you.

With the help of another police officer, Sgt. Wayt staged an "angry visitor" to the Police Station. After a brief exchange of words in our training room, the man left. Sgt. Wayt then

had us complete a "suspect identification" report on the man. This was to teach us how to quickly notice details for reporting purposes.

He provided handouts from the National Neighborhood Watch Program: "Home Security Inspection Checklist" and "Preventing Burglaries—How to Protect Your Home." These are available in PDF format online at [huberridge.org](http://huberridge.org) under the Police and Safety section. We also provide copies at our monthly HRAA meetings along with "7 Tips on Preventing Identity Theft."

Sgt. Wayt and our police department were excellent hosts for this event. We are very fortunate to have such a responsive, helpful police department. Thank you very much.

As of this writing, our neighborhood is approximately 40 percent represented with committed Block Watch reps. It only takes a moment to join our team. Call 891-9176 or e-mail [blockwatch@huberridge.org](mailto:blockwatch@huberridge.org) today.

—Pam Clegg, Block Watch Coordinator



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## Self-Defense Class for Tweens?—If You Respond

**Who?** Your Blendon Township Tween girl ages 12 to 15 and a parent, legal guardian, or responsible adult (sister, aunt, etc.)\*

**What?** A tailored class to teach basic self-defense tactics and awareness

**When?** To be determined

**Where?** The Blendon Township Senior Center

**Why?** Today's girl tween doesn't have to wait until she is 16 to be targeted by abductors, predators, or bullies; so we hope she will not have to wait until she is 16 to be trained in self-defense. You have read the news stories and the police reports of various assaults on younger teens. If you want your tween to be trained in how to lawfully defend herself, then **e-mail or call Detective Tammy Heslop by May 1.** Whether a class is held depends on our response so call 882-8500 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or e-mail

[BlendonTwpDetective@BlendonTwp.org](mailto:BlendonTwpDetective@BlendonTwp.org). A few more details about this class are on our website [huberridge.org](http://huberridge.org) in the Police and Safety section along with an e-mail link to Detective Heslop.

**How?** Chief John Belford and Detective Tammy Heslop will be the instructors. Both are well qualified to teach this class. Further, your comfort level and that of your child will remain a priority throughout the class.

\*Responsible adults other than parents or legal guardians must have a signed, notarized, limited power of attorney (POA) from the legal guardian for education and health care. The POA can be dated just for the dates of the class and must specify the child and the responsible adult by their full legal names and addresses.

—Pam Clegg, Block Watch Coordinator

## “The Block Watch Lady Was Blockwatched!”

Our daughter announced this with zeal and gusto as she bounded up the steps of our bi-level.

“Who’s the Block Watch lady?” asked a puzzled dad.

“Mom is. You know—she’s the one who tries to get people in the neighborhood to join Block Watch. When there’s nobody signed up for a street, sometimes Mom delivers the newsletter,” our daughter informed my husband.

“Yeah, I know that. So, what do you mean, she was ‘blockwatched?’” he queried.

“Well, we were just delivering the newsletter on Dempsey Road. A lady had her front door open. Her dog was at the door looking pretty mean. Mom tried to put the newsletter on the door, but the dog growled. Mom stopped in her tracks. Pretty soon the lady showed up at the door. Mom walked a little slower toward the door and asked the lady if it was safe [to come closer]. **The lady acted suspicious and told her to put it on the mailbox.** And guess what? The mailbox was away from the front door.” She laughed with a delighted mock in her “Ha! Ha!”

Very funny, I thought. But it was not really funny. As I thought about our daughter’s announcement, “The Block Watch lady was ‘blockwatched,’” I realized why I was “blockwatched.” **I was a stranger to these neighbors, so it makes sense that they would be suspicious of me.** And I have been “blockwatched” more than once while delivering *The Herald*. It is a good thing that these neighbors are suspicious of me. They do not know me. But it is a sad thing that a “stranger” is delivering our newsletter to their homes. **If each street had a street rep who was known by the neighbors, then no one would be suspicious of the deliverer. They would know each other—at least by sight.**

Look at the list of street reps in this newsletter. Do you see your street listed? If not, then would you consider being the neighbor who is known by your neighbors? Even if you see your street represented, more than one rep per street is encouraged. So please consider joining our team today—then I will not have to be “blockwatched” again! Thanks.

—Pam Clegg, Block Watch Coordinator

## Congratulations, Blendon Township Police Officers of the Year!

At the Trustees meeting on February 21, the Board recognized Lieutenant Dusty Lephart and Detective Eric Moore as our two Officers of the Year for 2006. Honorable mention went to Sergeant Wayt.

Lt. Lephart’s contributions as Acting Chief are well known to the Board. He put in a great deal of hours not only running the Police Department during my military leave of absence but also in the renovation of and transfer to the new police station.

Sgt. Wayt put a great deal of effort into the “Saved by the Belt” campaign, which put us in the running for another cruiser, and won another radar unit, which was needed for the Reserve cruiser.

Detective Moore and Sgt. Wayt pulled out all the stops and helped Lt. Lephart in any way that they could during a very challenging year. Det. Moore worked numerous hours in uniform to help out Patrol Bureau while doing a great job maintaining his Detective Bureau case load.

The Trustees recognized Lt. Lephart as the 2006 Police Officer of the Year and Detective Moore as the 2006 Reserve Officer of the Year with an Honorable Mention to Sgt. Wayt. Their contributions to the Police Department during 2006 have been outstanding as recognized by their peers, the Board of Trustees, and the community.

—John C. Belford, Chief of Police

## Neighborhood Pride

Every day each of us faces the challenges of life. In addition to the challenges we normally handle, the challenge of a clean and safe place to raise our family and to come home to in the evening is ever present. We depend on the township, county, and state to provide many services to make our home safe and comfortable.

A major part of the need to make and keep our community clean and safe is the responsibility of each resident and property owner. This responsibility requires us to apply a measure of common sense. If we stop and think ... before we put those tires beside the house or park the recreation

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vehicle in the driveway or—the most flagrant violation of all—have an inoperable vehicle on the property. Stop and think how it will look. Use common sense. Think of how a violation decreases everybody’s property value. Violations create a major problem if you are trying to sell your home. Violations send a signal to prospective buyers about what type of neighborhood you live in and what kind of neighbors you are. This takes us back to NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE.

NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE is the responsibility of everyone. We should not leave “NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE” to the township or our association leadership. We need to have enough pride in ourselves to self police what we do and realize the decisions we make will have an impact on the beauty, safety, and livableness of our community.

Living in a neighborhood carries with it responsibility. Here is a short list of things every resident should do on an ongoing basis: mow the grass, remove the snow, take the garbage cans back to the house, do not store tires and other trash outside the house, do not park inoperable vehicles or commercial vehicles on the property, do not park recreation vehicles in front of the house, and keep the house in a good state of repair. Not doing the above will diminish the value of each property and the entire neighborhood.

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR:** If you have neighbors who are unable to take in garbage cans or find it difficult, be a good neighbor and do it for them. It helps them, and it helps you.

**NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE** begins at HOME.

Remember our children are watching.

—Joe B. Bailey, Zoning Enforcement Officer

Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Dept.

## New Year Brings New Neighbors to Huber Area

Holiday and new year property sales since the last issue of *The Herald* have brought 17 new homeowners into the neighborhood. The Welcome Committee is constantly working toward pulling together the most attractive welcome bags for all new residents who have bought homes in Huber Ridge and getting them delivered as quickly as possible. On behalf of the Huber Ridge Area Association, we officially welcome you to the neighborhood!

The following listing of Huber Area new home sales was graciously provided by Compuname ([www.compuname.com](http://www.compuname.com)):  
November Sales (from November 21, 2006, through the end of the month):

Daniela Colon, 3479 Dempsey Rd.

Todd Buckingham, 3488 Paris Blvd.

Charles Cayton, 3716 Panama Dr.

Marcia A. and John A. Layton, 3357 Hunt Club Rd., N.

December Sales:

Jeremy and Julia Riga, 5591 Oslo Dr.

Household Realty Corp., 5548 Buenos Aires Blvd.

Mindy See, 5644 Oslo Dr.

January Sales:

David and Joni Gauden, 3468 Saigon Dr.

C. P. and Cheryl Zollars, 6118 Reno

Donald Bentley, Jr., 3566 Makassar Dr.

Roger McPhaden, 3385 Vickers Dr.

Trent and Devon Grimes, 3503 Dempsey

February Sales (through February 12, 2007, only):

Denise England, 5569 Buenos Aires Blvd.

Savoy Enterprises LLC, 6106 Bolamo Ct.

James C. Ervin, 3757 Lima Dr.

Loft Realty Solutions, 3575 Panama Dr.

Dannie K. and Jacqueline Spaulding, 3540 Stockholm Rd.

Please consider patronizing the merchants who so generously have contributed to the HRAA Welcome Bags. Many of them are located in the Huber Ridge merchant area along Westerville Road. They are:

Belleria

Carsonie's

**REED'S DELI & CAFE**  
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- Domino's
- Glengary Cleaners
- Hollywood Studio Theater
- Home Depot
- Mary Kay (Barbara Muldrew)
- Midas
- Mini Storage
- Monro
- Nail-A-Dumper
- Ohio State School of Cosmetology
- Reed's Deli (formerly Canelli's)
- Saturday's Hair Salon
- Speedway
- Subway
- Sunbury Dental
- USPS
- Vineyard Church
- Waffle House

Recently we added new contributors to our list:

- Blendon Township Police
- R. Eric Cordray, H&R Block tax professional
- Lifestyle Family Fitness
- Ohio Consumers' Counsel

—Carolyn Cordray, Welcome Committee Coordinator

## HRAA Profile: Brian McMahon

Vice President Brian McMahon is the newest officer of the Huber Ridge Area Association. He says:

I had always felt that the HRAA was a good idea, but it was during this recent situation with Ohio American Water that I really felt there was something very special going on here. The way that this community and, in particular, this association worked to get a settlement really impressed me. I know the outcome was not

ideal, but it could have been a lot worse if it were not for the dedication of the HRAA and the community at large. This was definitely something that I wanted to be a part of.

Brian and his “wonderful” wife of six years, Era, (who is also HRAA’s wonderful Secretary) moved to Huber Ridge in September of 2002. They were attracted to the entire Westerville area with its older style buildings and homes and small-town feel. Brian states: “We wanted to live somewhere that kind of reminded us of the types of neighborhoods we grew up in. Some of the newer developments did not do that for us.”

Brian is employed as an Inside Account Manager for Allied Electronics, which sells industrial automation products to large and small factories in the Columbus, Dayton, and Cincinnati areas; he has been with the company for eight years. In his spare time, Brian enjoys reading; long walks with his dog, Max; watching football; and “the occasional guilty pleasure of playing video games” on his old X-Box. (He claims to be “a little old” for video games and to be trying to break the habit slowly—as “cold turkey just isn’t quite working.”)

Welcome to the HRAA Executive Committee, Brian! We are glad to have you!

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

## Looking for a Place Where Your Kids Can Go After School?

[Editor’s note: This information comes from the *Program Guide to Vineyard’s Community Center*.]

The Zone Afterschool Program is a diverse environment created to provide students in grades K-8 a safe, loving, and nurturing place to go after school. The Zone staff and volunteers provide academic enrichment, recreational activities, and homework assistance to all students. Culture, athletics, dance, character education, and art education are also incorporated. Students may receive one-on-one ESL, reading, or math assistance if the need is demonstrated.

The Zone also provides a faith-based program, the C.O.R.E. Bible Study, on the first three Fridays of the month.

The Zone is open to ALL students and is a totally FREE program. For more information on enrolling, please visit the Vineyard’s Community Center information counter or call Stephanie Moore at 259-5251 or Kevin Brown at 259-5461 or log on to [www.vineyardcommunitycenter.org](http://www.vineyardcommunitycenter.org).

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The Vineyard Church also sponsors a summer camp July 15 through 20 for middle school students in Grades 5 through 8. Contact Dave McPeck at 259-5404 for more information or pick up an application at the information counter of the Vineyard Church.

—Era McMahan, Secretary

## Red Cross Babysitter Training

If you wanted to leave your children with an older sibling or a neighbor’s child looking after them, how old should the sitter be? More importantly you should ask, “Is that child prepared to take care of my children?” How do kids learn to be responsible to become babysitters? Who explains what should and should not be done when babysitting? Is it worth investing one day to help teach that child to become a responsible babysitter?

The American Red Cross of Greater Columbus provides classes in Babysitter Training for only \$35 per person. The classes are taught in various locations to be convenient for families. The course teaches 11- to 15-year-olds how to provide safe care to younger siblings and the responsibilities and qualities of being a good babysitter. Learn about basic care, safe play, first aid, professionalism, and tips on finding babysitting jobs. Participants should bring their lunch. Successful participants receive a certificate in Babysitter Training upon completion. For more information or to schedule a class, call the Red Cross at 253-2740.

Classes are scheduled for Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Upper Arlington Lutheran Church on Mill Run (May 12); at the Buckeye Ranch in Grove City (April 7 and June 16); at the Groveport Town Hall in Groveport (April 21); and at the American Red Cross offices at 995 East Broad Street (June 30). Classes are also scheduled in the evening at the Vineyard Church of Columbus on Cooper Road from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesday/Thursday nights (April 25/26 and June 27/28).

—Brent Sheffer, Treasurer

## Second Annual Spring Slip and Seed Swap

After the success of our initial Spring Slip and Seed Swap last year, we decided to hold it again this year. This is a quick activity you can participate in whether you bring something to swap or not, and you end up with material to beautify your yard as well as the neighborhood!

**The event this year will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the shelter house at Ridgewood Park.** Simply come on down; and if you have plants you've thinned out from your flower beds or seeds you harvested from the fall or even some of those pesky volunteer plants you've yanked out—bring those with you to swap or simply give away to your neighbors. Of course, bulbs and shrub and tree plantings are welcome, too.

As with last year's event, any leftover material will be planted in the park. Look for signs in the kiosks advertising the Swap closer to the time and plan to attend. We have some beautiful flower beds and therefore some talented gardeners in the neighborhood; this is a great time to share your lovely plantings as well as to share in a little neighborhood fellowship. Hope to see you there!

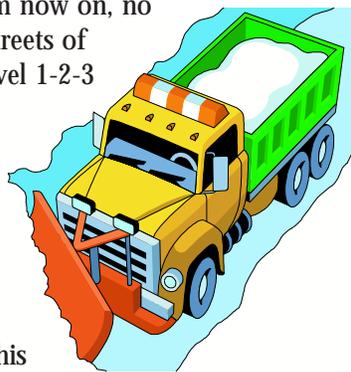
—Carolyn Cordray, Spring Slip and Seed Swap Coordinator

## If We Should Have Another Snowfall ...

At their February 21, 2007, meeting, the Blendon Township Trustees revised Resolution 07-01 regarding parking during snow emergencies. From now on, no vehicles can be parked on the streets of Blendon Township during a Level 1-2-3 snow emergency. Any vehicles parked on the streets of the Township must be moved within two hours after the announcement by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office of a Level 1-2-3 snow emergency; vehicles parked in violation of this prohibition can be removed with towing and storage costs assessed as well as fines for this minor misdemeanor.

Let's help our snow warriors to keep our streets clear by not parking on the streets during snow emergencies.

—Jim Welch, President



## Trash Can Etiquette: Do You Turn It Around?

Does your trash can face the right direction? Is there a right direction? If you watch the trash collection guys, they move through our neighborhood fairly quickly. The trucks move down the middle of the street, and the guys scramble to empty the containers. There is a device in the center of the back of the truck that grabs the metal bar on the larger trash cans so that the men don't have to lift a full trash can.

On the top of the "leased" trash cans, there are arrows to point the metal bar towards the street. That works great for communities with automated equipment that require every household to lease the same type of trash can. Our neighborhood doesn't use that equipment so the arrows point the wrong way.

Put your trash into trash containers and place the container by the curbside. Place your containers so that the wheels and handle are facing toward the street. This allows the individual to wheel or carry your container to the truck without having to spin it around, not have to drag it through your lawn, and lessen the chance of spilling. A little bit of effort on your part makes their job work more smoothly and helps them work more quickly. They may not say anything, but is there anything wrong with making someone else's day a little easier?

—Brent Sheffer, Treasurer

## Recycling??

Are you recycling? Would you recycle? Here are a few options:

- ➔ The drop box for paper at Grace Baptist Church on Paris to benefit the youth ministries
- ➔ The drop boxes for aluminum, paper, plastic, and cardboard at the Senior Center on Hempstead to benefit the Senior Center
- ➔ The recycle bins for glass and steel cans in front of Home Depot off Cleveland Avenue to benefit SWACO
- ➔ Ohio Mulch on Westerville Road (between 9 and 4) for electronic equipment, e.g., computers ([ohiodropoff.com](http://ohiodropoff.com))

—Jim Welch, President

—Lori Mann, Park Cleanup Day Coordinator

## A Tip from Sgt. Wayt ...

Security should be a priority in our daily lives. Take the time to survey your home for properly working doors, locks, and windows. During the night hours and times you are away from your home, be sure to secure property such as bicycles, lawn equipment, and cars.

—Sgt. Branch S. Wayt, Blendon Township Police

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*providing orthodontic services*

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## A Gold Star for [huberridge.org](http://huberridge.org)!

No, Huber Ridge was not at the Emmys, but [huberridge.org](http://huberridge.org) has earned the Gold Star Award from Neighborhood Link.

Neighborhood Link salutes neighborhoods that have good information and outstanding participation on their Neighborhood Link sites. Last year, the website was awarded a Blue Star, which means Neighborhood Link Quality Neighborhood, a neighborhood to watch.

In February our website received a Gold Star as a Neighborhood Link Premier Neighborhood.

Your association website, [huberridge.org](http://huberridge.org), is updated weekly. Please feel free to check weekly for information and updates pertinent



to our community and to use the discussion area for anything you might have to say, discuss, ask, etc. Remember that good communication builds great communities.

—Jim Welch, President

## Editorial Guidelines for the Publication of *The Herald*

### Purpose

*The Herald* is published quarterly by the Huber Ridge Area Association (HRAA) for the purpose of informing the members and potential members of the Huber Ridge Area Association of the activities, concerns, and achievements of the HRAA. The HRAA Executive Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving the content of this newsletter.

### Advertising Rates

- Advertising rates are as follows:
- \$25 per issue for a business-card size ad
- \$65 per issue for a quarter-page ad
- \$125 per issue for a half-page ad
- \$225 per issue for a full-page ad

## Are YOU Eligible to Join HRAA This Year?

The **HUBER RIDGE AREA ASSOCIATION** represents the interests of Blendon Township residents and merchants who are generally located in the area surrounded by I-270, Route 161, and Route 3 (Westerville Road) plus Batavia Road and Court and Bader Road and Court.

Membership is open to any adult who resides within, owns real property within, or operates a business physically located within the Association boundaries. This includes adults who reside in neighborhoods adjacent to our boundaries but not within the boundaries of another neighborhood citizens' or civic association. An adult is any person who has attained the age of 18.

Only members in good standing are eligible to participate in business meetings, to vote, or to serve in any of the elected or appointed positions. A member in good standing includes any member who is current in his or her annual Association dues and has agreed to abide by the Bylaws as they are now or may be amended in the future. A member in good standing who is an absentee owner of real property or a business entity is allowed one (1) vote in any matter before the Association membership.

*Dues are set for households and businesses, not individuals.* One payment covers all members of a household including their minors. The minors shall enjoy all of the privileges of membership including service on committees and participation in activities but cannot vote. **The current dues amount is \$15, which covers the 12-month period through the end of the anniversary month and is non-refundable.**

—Brent Sheffer, Treasurer



### HUBER RIDGE AREA ASSOCIATION 2007 MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Application deems agreement by each person to abide by the Bylaws now or as amended.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Names of Adults)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(E-mail Addresses: Please indicate the e-mail address for each adult in the household.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone)

2007 membership dues are Fifteen Dollars (\$15) *per household*. Dues may be paid at any meeting or mailed to **Brent Sheffer, 5663 Bashaw Drive, Westerville, OH 43081**. Please make checks payable to the Huber Ridge Area Association and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your membership information.

Please indicate if you would be willing to participate in the following activities:

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Watch Street Rep   | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee   | <input type="checkbox"/> Halloween Haunted Park     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Ridgewood Park Cleanup | <input type="checkbox"/> Costume Party              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Committee        | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Night Out | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizens Assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OAW Water Committee      | <input type="checkbox"/> HRAA Officer           | <input type="checkbox"/> HRAA Committee Assistant   |



Join us at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center, 6330 Hempstead Road, for Huber Ridge Area Association meetings on:

- |           |            |             |
|-----------|------------|-------------|
| April 5   | May 3      | June 7      |
| July 5    | August 2   | September 6 |
| October 4 | November 1 | December 6  |